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(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Ranney et al.**

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(54) **VIBURNUMPLANT NAMED ‘NCVX4’**

(50) Latin Name: *Viburnum davidii* x *propinquum*  
Varietal Denomination: **NCVX4**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
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CPC ..... *A01H 6/00* (2018.05)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of *Viburnum* plant named  
‘NCVX4’ is disclosed, characterized by a compact habit and  
fragrant pink flowers. The new variety is a *Viburnum*,  
normally produced as an outdoor garden or container plant.

**3 Drawing Sheets**

**1**

Latin name of the genus and species: *Viburnum davidii* x  
*propinquum*.

Variety denomination: ‘NCVX4’.

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The new *Viburnum* cultivar is a product of a planned  
breeding program conducted by the inventor in Mills River,  
N.C. The open-pollination resulting in this new variety was  
made during Summer of 2012. The objective of the breeding  
program was to develop new plant forms of *Viburnum* for  
commercial horticultural purposes.

The seed parent of ‘NCVX4’ is the unpatented, propri-  
etary seedling referred to as *Viburnum* ‘H2010-003-002’.  
The pollen parent is unidentified. The new variety was  
identified as a potentially interesting selection in the Sum-  
mer of 2013, at a research greenhouse in Mills River, N.C.

The first asexual propagation of ‘NCVX4’ was carried out  
in July of 2014 by rooting stem cuttings at the same research  
greenhouse in Mills River, N.C. and has been asexually  
reproduced repeatedly. ‘NCVX4’ has been found to retain its  
distinctive characteristics through successive asexual propa-  
gations.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar ‘NCVX4’ has not been observed under all  
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary  
somewhat with variations in environment such as tempera-  
ture, day length, and light intensity, without, however, any  
variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and  
are determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘NCVX4’.  
These characteristics in combination distinguish ‘NCVX4’  
as a new and distinct *Viburnum* cultivar:

1. A compact habit with dense branching.
2. Fragrant pink flowers.
3. Semi-evergreen foliage.

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#### PARENT COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘NCVX4’ cannot be compared  
to the seed parent as records of the seed parent character-  
istics are not available.

The pollen parent is unidentified.

#### COMMERCIAL COMPARISON

Plants of the new cultivar ‘NCVX4’ can be compared to  
the commercial variety *Viburnum* ‘Dawn’, unpatented.  
These varieties are similar in most horticultural character-  
istics; however, ‘NCVX4’ differs in the following:

1. Plants of the new variety are smaller and more compact  
(150 to 200 cm tall and wide) than plants of ‘Dawn’  
(about 300 cm tall).
  2. Plants of ‘NCVX4’ are semi-evergreen, plants of this  
comparator are deciduous.
- ‘NCVX4’ can also be compared to ‘NCVX2’, U.S. Plant  
patent application Ser. No. 16/903,184. ‘NCVX4’ is smaller  
in size (height: 50 to 70 cm; width: 90 to 120 cm), with a  
more prostrate habit, smaller leaves (length 2.2 to 6 cm;  
width: 1 to 2.5 cm), and a larger inflorescence diameter (5  
to 10 cm.). Compared to ‘NCVX4’, ‘NCVX2’ is larger in  
size (height: 80 to 120 cm; width: 100 to 120 cm), with a  
globose habit, larger leaves (length 4 to 9 cm; width: 1.5 to  
3.7 cm), and a smaller inflorescence diameter (4 to 5 cm).

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

This new smooth-leaf *Viburnum* (*Viburnum davidii* x  
*propinquum*) is illustrated by the accompanying photo-  
graphs which show the plant’s form, foliage and inflores-  
cences. Plants illustrated are approximately 4 years old. The  
colors shown are as true as can be reasonably obtained by

conventional photographic procedures. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which accurately describe the colors of the new *Viburnum* cultivar.

FIG. 1 is a color photograph showing pink inflorescences in March, 2020 in Mills River, N.C.

FIG. 2 is a color photograph showing the emerging foliage color of 'NCVX4' taken in March, 2020 in Mills River, N.C.

FIG. 3 is a color photograph of a field-grown 'NCVX4' taken in April, 2020 in Mills River, N.C.

#### DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of the botanical characteristics of the new and distinct *Viburnum* variety plant known by the denomination 'NCVX4'. The detailed description was taken on a five-year-old field-grown plant in Mills River, N.C. in 2019. All colors cited herein refer to The Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S.), London, Sixth Edition). Where specific dimensions, sizes, colors, and other characteristics are given, it is to be understood that such characteristics are approximations or averages set forth as accurately as practicable.

Botanical classification: *Viburnum* hybrid 'NCVX4'.

#### PROPAGATION

Typical method: Softwood cuttings.

Time to initiate rooting: 28 days at approximately 27° C.

Time to produce a rooted young plant: About 3 months at approximately 27° C.

Root description: Dense, free branching roots of moderate thickness. Colored yellow-white, not accurately measured with an R.H.S. chart.

#### PLANT

Plant type: Perennial semi-evergreen flowering shrub.

Plant description:

*Growth habit*.—Densely branched, compact, globose.

Outer branches prostrate, inner branches upright.

Plants moderately vigorous.

*Height*.—50 to 70 cm.

*Width*.—90 to 120 cm.

Shoot and stem:

*Lateral branch length*.—Avg. 120 cm (100 to 150 cm).

*Lateral branch diameter*.—Avg. 2 cm (1 to 5 cm).

*Internode length*.—Avg. 4 cm (2 to 7 cm).

*Immature shoot texture (current year)*.—Glabrous.

*Immature shoot color (current year)*.—Brown (200B).

*Mature stem texture (from prior year)*.—Glabrous, with lenticels.

*Mature stem color (from prior year)*.—Grey (201A).

#### FOLIAGE

Leaf:

Type: Simple.

*Persistence*.—Deciduous to semi-evergreen in warmer climates.

*Arrangement*.—Opposite.

*Shape*.—Ovate-lanceolate.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Cuneate.

*Venation*.—Pinnate.

*Vein color*.—Upper: Green (137A). Lower: Red-Purple (58A).

*Margins*.—Serrate.

*Emerging leaves*.—Color: Upper: Red-Purple (59B).

Lower: Greyed-Purple (186D). Texture: Glabrous.

*Mature leaves during growing season*.—Color: Upper: Green (137A). Lower: Yellow-Green (146B). Texture: Glabrous. Length of lamina: 2.2 cm to 6.0 cm. Width: 1.5 cm to 3.2 cm.

*Fall/winter season*.—Color: Including Greyed-Purple (184C), Greyed-Orange (169C), and Green (139A) on both upper and lower surfaces.

*Leaf attachment*.—Petiolate.

*Petiole*.—Length: Avg. 0.8 cm (0.6 to 1 cm). Diameter: About 0.1 cm. Color: Red-Purple (58A). Texture: Glabrous.

#### FLOWER

Description: Single salverform flowers arranged on terminal cymes.

Number of true flowers per inflorescence: About 24.

Flowering season: February to early March in Mills River, N.C.

Fragrance: Fragrant.

Flower longevity: About 1 week.

Inflorescence:

*Diameter*.—5 cm to 10 cm.

*Height*.—3.0 cm to 4.5 cm.

Flower:

*Diameter*.—Avg. 0.6 cm (0.4 to 0.7 cm).

*Height*.—Avg. 1.4 cm (1.0 to 1.5 cm).

Bud:

*Shape*.—Oblong.

*Length*.—Avg. 0.8 cm (0.6 to 1.0 cm).

*Diameter*.—About 0.2 cm.

*Color*.—Red-Purple (62B) with Red-Purple (61C) at the tip.

Petals:

*Number*.—5 fused petals.

*Arrangement*.—Whorled.

*Length*.—About 0.3 cm.

*Width*.—About 0.2 cm.

*Shape*.—Ovate.

*Margin*.—Entire.

*Apex*.—Obtuse.

*Texture*.—Glabrous.

*Color*.—Red-Purple (62B).

Sepal:

*Number*.—5 fused sepals.

*Arrangement*.—Whorled.

*Length*.—About 0.4 cm.

*Width*.—About 0.3 cm.

*Shape*.—Ovate.

*Margin*.—Entire.

*Apex*.—Acute.

*Base*.—Fused.

*Texture*.—Slightly pubescent.

*Color*.—Green (142B) with Red-Purple (60B) at the tip.

Peduncle:

*Length*.—About 2.5 cm.  
*Diameter*.—About 1.5 cm.  
*Texture*.—Pubescent.  
*Color*.—Close to Yellow-Green (152C).

Pedicels:

*Length*.—About 0.3 cm.  
*Diameter*.—Less than 0.1 cm.  
*Texture*.—Pubescent.  
*Color*.—Close to Yellow-Green (147C).

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Gynoecium:

*Pistil number*.—1.  
*Pistil length*.—Less than 0.1 cm.  
*Stigma shape*.—Rounded.  
*Stigma color*.—Red-Purple (60A).  
*Style length*.—Less than 0.1 cm.  
*Style color*.—Red-Purple (60A).

Androecium:

*Stamen number*.—5.  
*Anther shape*.—Oblong.  
*Anther size*.—About 0.1 cm.  
*Anther color*.—Black (202A).  
*Amount of pollen*.—Average.  
*Pollen color*.—Yellow (8A).

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Fruit and seed: None observed.  
Disease and insect resistance: No significant resistance nor susceptibility to disease or insect pests has been observed.  
Cold hardiness: At least USDA zone 6b; testing has not been completed in colder zones.

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct cultivar of *Viburnum* plant named ‘NCVX4’ as herein illustrated and described.

\* \* \* \* \*



FIG. 1



FIG. 2



FIG. 3

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : PP33,229 P2  
APPLICATION NO. : 16/903236  
DATED : July 6, 2021  
INVENTOR(S) : Thomas Green Ranney et al.

Page 1 of 1

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

On the Title Page

Item (50), should read:

(50) Latin Name: Viburnum hybrid

Column 1, Lines 1 and 2 should read:

Latin name of the genus and species: Viburnum hybrid

Column 2, Lines 33 and 34 should read:

This new Viburnum hybrid is illustrated by the accompanying

Signed and Sealed this  
First Day of October, 2024  


Katherine Kelly Vidal  
*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*